

issues

Message from the State Veterinarian

“One Health” has become a popular catch phrase for the concept of collaboration between human and animal health. We, here at BOAH, have long been believers in this philosophy—long before the idea had a name. From the local/field level to the central office, BOAH staff members have consistently worked to foster relationships with our human health counterparts.

Why take a one health approach? Consider the results of a report by the International Livestock Research Institute which states that, globally, zoonotic diseases cause 2.5 billion cases of human illness each year and 2.7 million human deaths. Some studies suggest that as much as 75 percent of emerging diseases in the last 60 years are zoonotic.

In reality, we don't need these text book figures to encourage a cross-species approach to health. One Health was over-arching theme during this summer's H3N2v event.

I have to recognize the wisdom and forethought of a private veterinary practitioner who called BOAH on July 12, because the pigs he was tending at the LaPorte County Fair were febrile. His called to verify that withholding the animals from the sale (and inevitable shipment to slaughter) was prudent, as any pig with a temperature higher than 106 degrees would be rejected at inspection. He was exactly right. He recognized that these animals were more than 4-H projects—they were part of the food chain.

The importance of broader One Health thinking played out two days later, when a local reporter, on her way to the fair, contacted BOAH to find out if the sick pigs had anything to do with several ill children. One Health thinking prompted us to contact the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH). I also asked the attending veterinarian to collect sample swabs of the pigs at the fair to provide a clearer picture of what was happening. Subsequent testing of the kids and the pigs found the same variant influenza Type A virus—for the first time.

That diagnosis set in motion a joint effort by BOAH, ISDH, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and county health departments throughout the state. At that early date, another 27 county fairs, as well as the State Fair, were yet to occur. Together, we all worked to advise county fair organizers, Purdue Extension educators, swine exhibitors, and the public about precautionary measures, surveillance, biosecurity and food safety to minimize or prevent any further spread of the virus.

For BOAH, our biggest physical effort came with swine check-in for the Indiana State Fair, when our staff—literally overnight—pulled together crews to take the temperatures of all 1,983 pigs entered in the 4-H swine show.

Ultimately, as the fair season played out, pigs tested positive for H3N2v at three county fairs, LaPorte, Washington and Monroe. (Pigs in Hendricks had H1N1.) On the human side, 138 Hoosiers in more than 40 counties statewide tested positive for the virus.

As a follow-up to this summer's events, BOAH is working to develop guidelines for next year's swine exhibitions, with the input from the Swine Health Advisory Scientific Subcommittee. Those guidelines will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Bret D. Marsh, DVM
Indiana State Veterinarian

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State Veterinarian

BOAH Board Actions

DURING THEIR regular July 12, 2012 meeting, Board members:

- Adopted an updated version of the pasteurized milk ordinance; and,
- Adopted an updated version of slaughter of livestock and poultry and processing inspection program standards to match the federal standards.

NEXT QUARTERLY Board meeting will be October 11, 2012.

Premise ID

TO DATE, the total number of active premises registered in Indiana is currently 52,210.

By species, totals are: avian: 7,130; bovine: 24,594; camelids: 485; caprine: 8,073; cervids: 1,197; equine: 7,985; fish: 1,050; ovine: 5,635; porcine: 10,082.

Companion Animal

SEPTEMBER 28 was World Rabies Day—a reminder to all Hoosier pet owners that all dogs, cats and ferrets 3 months of age or older must be vaccinated against the rabies virus. Wildlife species (such as skunks or raccoons) can be vaccinated; however, their vaccination status is not recognized if the animal bites a human. Indiana law requires that all wild species be euthanized and tested after human bite event. Vaccinated dogs, cats and ferrets that are exposed to a rabies-positive animal are subject to a 10-day quarantine and observation. An unvaccinated dog, cat or ferret must be quarantined and observed for 6 months. More info is online at: <http://www.in.gov/boah/2337.htm>.

Equine

NEW YORK officials recently announced that they will be issuing 6-month interstate movement permits (or “passports”) for horses. Indiana’s requirements recognize only 30-day certificates of veterinary inspection; therefore, these passports will not be valid here. Likewise, officials from several states have stated they will not accept New York’s permits. As BOAH has advised in the past, always call the state-of-destination before moving animals because rules change frequently and vary greatly from state to state.

NATIONALLY, 2012 may be a record year for the West Nile virus (WNV). In Indiana, statewide monitoring has identified 77 WNV-positive pools. Presence of the virus means increased risk of infection for horses (and people). The most unfortunate aspect of a WNV-infected horse is that the disease is completely preventable through regular vaccination. Year-to-date, Indiana has had 21 positive horses.

VESICULAR STOMATITIS has been found in Colorado and New Mexico. Anyone traveling out-of-state with a horse should contact the destination state to verify any new requirements for pre-entry permits and/or statements on health papers.

Cattle/Ruminants

WE WANT your feedback! If you have used 840 RFID tags and associated technology in your veterinary practice, please let us know. We want to hear about your perceived benefits and areas of improvement. Comments may be directed to Dr. Kerry Peterson at kepeterson@boah.in.gov. Also, BOAH still has RFID tags for official use or to provide to clients, including orange 840 RFID tags for veterinary use for calfhood vaccinations.

CATTLE OLDER than 18 months of age entering Virginia must be accompanied by a negative tuberculosis test and proper identification. Animals not meeting the requirements will be quarantined until met. Acceptable TB tests include individual animal testing within 60 days prior to entry, or an annual whole-herd test for cattle originating from TB-accredited herds.

AS OF Sept. 1, 2012, Illinois no longer requires cattle sold through auction markets be tested for brucellosis before leaving. As a result, cattle entering Illinois from brucellosis-free states through out-of-state auction markets will no longer need to be tested before leaving the market.

USDA HAS a new proposed traceability rule. Documents about the rule may be found on the BOAH website at: <http://www.in.gov/boah/2533.htm> . Also included is a guide, with photos, on the proper placement of various official ID in cattle.

Dairy

THE VIRTUAL public hearing about the sale of raw milk in Indiana closed on Sept. 1. The 90-day comment period generated input from 831 individuals. Feedback from the public hearing will be part of a larger report that includes guidance from the industry advisory panel. The final report must be submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Council by Dec. 1. A copy will be posted on the BOAH website when the report is complete.

THE BOAH Dairy Division has a new interim director. Doug Metcalf, BOAH's chief of staff for the agency, has assumed the position.

Meat & Poultry

A FALL newsletter was sent to all Meat and Poultry Inspection Program official establishment managers to highlight the issue of sanitation in plants. All food products must be protected from contamination from receiving through distribution. Sanitation is a dynamic and ongoing function and cannot be sporadic. Therefore, in addition to sanitation being defined as "protection from contamination" another definition could be "sanitation is a way of life."

Cervids

THE NEW federal rule on interstate movement of cervids has been published (June 13, 2012 edition of *Federal Register*). The rule establishes a federal CWD herd certification program as well as rules for interstate movement of farmed cervids.

NUMEROUS STATES are seeing increased cases of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) this year in deer. EHD has been confirmed in wild and farmed cervids, as well as a small number of cows, in more than 40 Indiana counties. EHD may cause high death losses in deer populations, but does not affect humans. As is always the case, hunters are advised not to consume obviously unhealthy or sick-looking animals.

Invasive Species

SEVERE DROUGHT conditions have created an early shortage of hay, driving livestock owners to seek out supplies in other states. Anyone purchasing hay outside of Indiana should verify the status of their supply. USDA has quarantined the movement of hay from some areas, because of fire ant infestations. Quarantined areas include most of Texas, southern Oklahoma, and parts of New Mexico, California and Puerto Rico. Fire ants can be transported in the bales. For more information and answers to common questions, visit www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/fireants.



Swine

BOAH HAS published two new guidance documents related to PRRS (porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome). The guidelines were generated through a collaboration of BOAH and many of Indiana's top swine practitioners as part of the Swine Health Advisory Committee's Scientific

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Subcommittee. The documents address acclimation of gilts (with an emphasis on PRRS management) and communication road map for producers whose herds undergo a change in health status. Producers can find them online at: <http://www.in.gov/boah/2620.htm> .

Avian

OF THE 438 poultry farms in Los Altos, Mexico, 43 tested positive for the influenza virus H7N3. In response, nearly 11 million birds were slaughtered to prevent spread. This prompted the Mexican government to begin vaccinating birds; the second phase will start soon. In the end, approximately 90 million doses will be used on poultry farms in the area.